



Ashbourne Hilltop Primary and Nursery School

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Coronavirus: Testing at home

As part of the government's package of measures for the full opening of schools on March 8th, household members of primary school children are entitled to **free lateral flow tests**. These tests are easy to self-administer and have been in use by all school staff twice a week for the past month. The tests are not for primary children and are not available from schools but instead you can collect or order them.

We strongly encourage you and your family to take up this opportunity. The more people who are tested regularly across our school community the less likely we are to have a case in school and the more likely we are able to remain fully open over the coming weeks.

If you would like to get a twice-weekly test, the information of how to do so is below, summarised from this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff#how-to-get-a-rapid-lateral-flow-test>

From 1 March 2021, if you're a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of staff or a pupil you can get a twice-weekly test:

- through your employer if they offer testing to employees
- at a local test site
- by collecting a home test kit from a test site
- by ordering a home test kit online.

Take a test at a rapid lateral flow test site

You can take a rapid lateral flow test at a local site. Testing at these sites is assisted, which means you will swab yourself under the supervision of a trained operator. You may need to book an appointment.

[Click here to find your nearest rapid lateral flow test site.](#)

Collect test kits

You can collect up to 4 home test kits at a local collection point. Each kit contains 7 tests. Anyone 18 or over can collect. You can check online if the location is busy before you go.

[Click here to find your nearest home test kit collection point.](#)

Order home test kits online

If you cannot get tested at your workplace, or are unable to go to a test site or collect test kits, you can order a home test kit online. [Click here to order a home test kit.](#)

What twice-weekly testing involves

You will be asked to:

- take a test twice a week (every 3 or 4 days apart)

- report every result to NHS Test and Trace on the same day you take the test online or by calling 119.

What to do if a lateral flow test result is positive OR if a member of your household gets coronavirus symptoms

If anyone in your household bubble tests positive or gets coronavirus symptoms, you should:

- self-isolate immediately
- tell the school — call the school office on 01335 343 041 or if it's outside of school hours, please email info@ashbournehilltop.derbyshire.sch.uk
- get a PCR test within 48 hours to confirm the result / confirm whether the symptoms are coronavirus
- follow the stay-at-home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection.

If the PCR test returns a negative result, then this supersedes the previous LFT test and the person may return to their daily routine (in this instance any contacts that are self-isolating will also be able to return to school etc.)

What to do if a lateral flow test result is negative

A negative result means the test did not find signs of coronavirus and your children can continue to come to school and you can continue your normal activities. However, this **DOES NOT** guarantee that you do not have coronavirus, so you should keep following all coronavirus advice including:

- regular handwashing
- social distancing.

Contact tracing in school

As soon as school receives **either** a positive LFT or PCR test result, we will take the actions outlined below.

When the school is informed that a pupil, staff member or visitor has tested positive for Covid-19, the school will contact the Department for Education's "Coronavirus Helpline".

The school will then identify all possible contacts in school and communicate with parents of pupils if necessary.

Any person identified as a contact during the previous 48 hours will need to self-isolate for a period of 10 days. This self-isolation period is a legal requirement. According to the NHS and Government websites, self-isolation is:

"when you do not leave your home" because you have or might have coronavirus (COVID-19)."

This 10-day period of isolation cannot be made shorter by conducting a home LFT.

School communication

The school will first communicate with the family reporting the positive case, then with all pupils and adults identified as contacts and finally with all other members of the school community.

There will be a letter from the DfE and Public Health England, as well as messages from the school via Class Dojo.

Home learning

If any pupil is forced to self-isolate because of contact with a positive case, there will be home

learning available from the child's class teacher. In the case of individual pupils isolating, this will take the same form as during lockdown. In instances of entire bubbles isolating, there will be more live teaching available from the class teacher.

We will be keeping our information on remote learning up to date on the school website and the remote learning policy will be amended to reflect these changes in processes and guidance.

We can best safeguard our pupils, families and staff by following the procedures and working together in line with the guidance issued by the government.

Yours sincerely

Darren Hooley
Head Teacher